IN THE CLAIMS

1. (once amended) A method for delivering a therapeutic dose of a gene expression cassette in a fluid selectively to heart for sustained expression comprising steps of:

(a) increasing dwell time of fluid in a targeted area by induction of complete or near-complete transient cardiac arrest,

(b) administration of a vascular permeablizing agent, and

(c) administration of a viral vector containing a gene expression cassette of interest.

2. (once amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the dwell time is further increased by the induction of hypothermia.

3. (once amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the dwell time is further increased by isolation of the heart from systemic circulation.

4. (once amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the dwell time is further increased by induction of hypothermia and isolation of the heart from systemic circulation.

5. (cancelled)

6. (once amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein dwell time is further increased by induction of reversible bradycardia.

7. (original) A method as in claim 1, wherein the vascular permeablizing agent is histamine, substance P or serotonin.

8. (original) A method as in claim 1, wherein at least one bolus of virus is administered.

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9. (original) A method as in claim 1, wherein the viral vector is an adenoviral vector.

10. (original) A method as in claim 9, wherein the adenoviral vector contains a strong promoter.

11. (original) A method as in claim 10, wherein the strong promoter is a cytomegalovirus (CMV) promoter.

12. (original) A method as in claim 10, wherein the strong promoter is a Rous sarcoma virus (RSV) promoter.

13. (original) A method as in claim 9, wherein the adenoviral vector contains enhancer elements.

14. (original) A method as in claim 13, wherein the enhancer is a cytomegalovirus (CMV) enhancer.

15. (original) A method as in claim 13, wherein the enhancer is a Rous sarcoma virus (RSV) enhancer.

16. A method as in claim 1, wherein the viral vector is an adenovirus-associated viral (AAV) vector.

17. (original) A method as in claim 16, wherein the AAV vector contains a strong promoter.

18. (original) A method as in claim 17, wherein the strong promoter is a

cytomegalovirus (CMV) promoter.

19. (original) A method as in claim 16, wherein the strong promoter is a Rous sarcoma virus (RSV) promoter.

20. (original) A method as in claim 9, wherein the AAV vector contains enhancer elements.

21. (original) A method as in claim 20, wherein the enhancer is a cytomegalovirus (CMV) enhancer.

22. (original) A method as in claim 20, wherein the enhancer is a Rous sarcoma virus (RSV) enhancer.

23-30.(cancelled)

31. (original) A method as in claim 1, wherein the gene of interest is a gene fragment.

32-40.(cancelled)